

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (previously presented): A decorative carapace for a burial vault comprising:

a carapace having a top surface; and

a substrate, having a decorative graphic, said substrate being attached to said top surface of said carapace; and

adhesive interposed between said carapace and said substrate, and adhering said substrate to said carapace;

wherein said substrate is formed from a material selected from the group of polyester, polypropylene, polyethylene, vinyl, acetate, acrylic, polystyrene, or polycarbonate.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (original): The decorative carapace according to claim 1 wherein said substrate is transparent.

Claim 4 (original): The decorative carapace according to claim 1 wherein said graphic is printed on said substrate.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (original): The decorative carapace according to claim 4 wherein said substrate is adhered to said carapace using transparent adhesive.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A decorative funeral urn, comprising: an urn having an exterior surface; and a substrate having a decorative graphic, said substrate being attached to said exterior surface of said urn.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The decorative urn according to claim 7 wherein said substrate is adhered to said urn using adhesive.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The decorative urn according to claim 7 wherein said substrate is transparent.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The decorative urn according to claim 7 wherein said graphic is printed on said substrate.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): The decorative urn according to claim 7 wherein said substrate is formed from a material selected from the group of polyester, polypropylene, polyethylene, vinyl, acetate, acrylic, polystyrene, or polycarbonate.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The decorative urn according to claim 9 wherein said substrate is adhered to said urn using transparent adhesive.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): The decorative urn according to claim 7 wherein said substrate completely encircles the urn.

Claim 14 (withdrawn): A method for customizing the appearance of a carapace, comprising: providing a carapace and clean a top surface thereof; providing a substrate having a decorative graphic image printed on one side and an adhesive layer covered by a backing sheet on an opposite side; peeling the backing sheet from one end of the substrate; saturating the adhesive side of the substrate with a soap solution; inverting the substrate so that the adhesive side is facing the top surface of the carapace and align the substrate with the carapace; placing the substrate in contact with the surface of the carapace; and removing the soap solution entrapped between the carapace and the substrate.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 14, further comprising the steps of: cleaning the substrate; and removing entrapped air bubbles.

Claim 16 (new): A decorative receptacle for holding the remains of a deceased, the receptacle comprising:
a container;

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a substrate having first and second sides;
a graphic image applied to the first side of the substrate; and
an adhesive attaching the second side of the substrate to a first surface of the container.

Claim 17 (new): The device of claim 16, wherein the substrate substantially covers the first surface of the container.

Claim 18 (new): The device of claim 17, wherein the container comprises a burial vault.

Claim 19 (new): The device of claim 16, wherein the substrate is flexible and the container comprises an urn.

Claim 20 (new): The device of claim 16, wherein the substrate is substantially transparent and the adhesive is substantially transparent.

Claim 21 (new): The device of claim 16, wherein the graphic image comprises a color image.

Claim 22 (new): The device of claim 21, wherein the graphic image is printed on the first side of the substrate.

Claim 23 (new): The device of claim 16, wherein the substrate comprises a continuous sheet of material without seams.

Claim 24 (new): The device of claim 16, wherein the substrate is substantially rigid.

Claim 25 (new): The device of claim 16 further comprising a protective layer covering the graphic image.